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OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

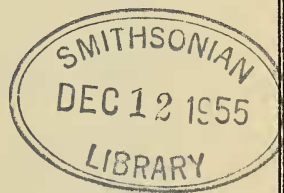
Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.,
Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME I. SECTION C. Part. C.12. Pp. 161—178

DIRECTION 21

Validation under the Plenary Powers of the generic names *Bubo* Duméril, 1806, *Coturnix* Bonnaterre, 1790, *Egretta* Forster, 1817, and *Oriolus* Linnaeus, 1766 (Class Aves), by the suppression of older homonyms published by Brisson in 1760 (validation of four erroneous entries on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* made by the Ruling given in *Opinion 67*)



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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(*Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent
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Dr. L. B. Holthuis (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The
Netherlands*) (12th August 1953)

DIRECTION 21

VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE
GENERIC NAMES "BUBO" DUMÉRIL, 1806,
"COTURNIX" BONNATERRE, 1790, "EGRETTA"
FORSTER, 1817, AND "ORIOLOUS" LINNAEUS, 1766
(CLASS AVES) BY THE SUPPRESSION OF
OLDER HOMONYMS PUBLISHED BY BRISSON
IN 1760 (VALIDATION OF FOUR ERRON-
EOUS ENTRIES ON THE "OFFICIAL LIST
OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY"
MADE BY THE RULING GIVEN IN
"OPINION" 67)

RULING :—(1) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby suppressed under the Plenary Powers for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy :—(a) *Bubo* Brisson, 1760 ; (b) *Coturnix* Brisson, 1760 ; (c) *Egretta* Brisson, 1760 ; (d) *Oriolus* Brisson, 1760.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names, as validated under the Plenary Powers under (1) above, are hereby confirmed in their respective positions on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, on which each was placed by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 67 :—(a) *Bubo* Duméril, 1806 ; (b) *Coturnix* Bonnaterre, 1790 ; (c) *Egretta* Forster, 1817 ; (d) *Oriolus* Linnaeus, 1766.

(3) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Nos. severally specified below :—

- (a) the four generic names specified in (1) above, as there suppressed under the Plenary Powers (Name Nos. 320 to 323) ;
- (b) *Bubo* Rambur, 1842 (a junior homonym of *Bubo* Duméril, 1806) (Name No. 324) ;
- (c) *Coturnix* Nozeman & Vosmaer, 1758 (a name published in a work rejected, under *Opinion* 241, for nomenclatorial purposes) (Name No. 325).

NOV 28 1955

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

In the course of preparing his Report on the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, Mr. Francis Hemming, as Secretary, found that the generic name *Gavia* had first been published in 1760 in Brisson's *Ornithologia*. This disconcerting discovery led Mr. Hemming to make a thorough examination of Brisson's book. This examination showed that four well-known names, each of which had been placed on the *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion 67*, were invalid, by reason of being junior homonyms of generic names published in Brisson's *Ornithologia*. Mr. Hemming decided at once to report this matter to the Commission and on 8th September 1952 he submitted the following paper on this subject for its consideration :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to suppress four generic names for birds published by Brisson in 1760 which have long been overlooked and which invalidate as homonyms four names placed on the "Official List of Generic Names in Zoology" (correction of erroneous entries in "Opinion" 67)

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its Plenary Powers to validate four generic names placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Commission's *Opinion 67* (1916, *Smithson. Publ.* 2409 : 177—182), each of which it is now seen is an invalid junior homonym of a generic name consisting of the same word published by M. J. Brisson in 1760 in his *Ornithologia* but since then completely overlooked.

2. The position in regard to this matter is as follows : (1) Brisson was a non-binominal author of what was formerly called the "binary" school, that is, he recognised that the scientific name of an animal must be designed to denote two concepts, namely that represented by the species to which the name was applied and that represented by the next higher group (i.e. the genus) in which that species was placed, and that the generic concept must be denoted by a noun substantive in the nominative singular placed at the beginning of the name, but he did not consider it necessary that the species concept should also be denoted by a single word, regarding it as equally appropriate that this concept should be denoted by a phrase consisting of two or more

Latin words. (2) In 1911, at a time when the International Commission considered that generic names published by authors who applied a "binary", though non-binominal system of nomenclature satisfied the requirements of Article 25 of the *Règles*, the Commission published an *Opinion*, *Opinion* 37 (1911, *Smithson. Publ.* 2013 : 87—88), in which it ruled that the generic names in Brisson's *Ornithologia* satisfied the requirements of the Rules. (3) In 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 65) the International Congress of Zoology substituted the word "binominal" for the word "binary" in Article 25, thereby making it clear that names published by non-binominal "binary" authors possessed no availability in nomenclature. (4) The foregoing decision would have destroyed the availability of all the generic names in Brisson's *Ornithologia*, if it had not been decided to accompany it with a further provision expressly preserving the status previously accorded to those names under its *Opinion* 37 of 1911 (1950, *ibid.* 4 : 65, Point (3) (a) (iv)). It will be seen from the foregoing particulars that, other things being equal, every new generic name in Brisson's *Ornithologia* of 1760 is an available name.

3. The recent discovery that Brisson had published a generic name *Gavia* in the *Ornithologia* (see application Z.N.(S.) 78, relating to the name *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758*) which had been completely overlooked in all zoological Nomenclators led me to think that it was desirable to make a thorough examination of Brisson's *Ornithologia*, in order to make sure that none of the generic names for birds which had been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* was preoccupied by a generic name consisting of an identical word published in 1760 in Brisson's *Ornithologia* but since overlooked. I have accordingly examined the *Ornithologia* from this point of view, as the result of which it now appears that six generic names now on the *Official List* are invalid (because junior) homonyms of names published by Brisson in 1760. Of the names so found to be invalid, the following five were placed on the *Official List* in *Opinion* 67 : (1) *Bubo* Duméril, 1806 ; (2) *Coturnix* Bonnaterre, 1790 ; (3) *Egretta* Forster, 1817 ; (4) *Gallinago* Koch, 1816 ; (5) *Oriolus* Linnaeus, 1766. The sixth name on the *Official List* now found to be preoccupied by an identical Brisson name is *Grus* Pallas, 1767, which was placed on the *Official List* by *Opinion* 103 (*Smithson. misc. Coll.* 73 (No. 5) : 21—24). Special problems arise in connection with two of these names, namely *Gallinago* Koch and *Grus* Pallas. The first of these cases is dealt with in Application Z.N.(S.) 575 (see pp. 93—95 of the present volume¹) ; the second in Application Z.N.(S.) 558, which is at present still under discussion with specialists but which will be published as soon as possible. The present application is accordingly concerned only with the position of the names *Bubo* Duméril, *Coturnix* Bonnaterre, *Egretta* Forster, and *Oriolus* Linnaeus.

* See page 11 of the present volume [i.e. of Vol. 9 of *Bull.zool.Nomencl.*].

¹ i.e. of vol. 9 of *Bull. zool. Nomencl.*

4. The decision to validate the names in Brisson's *Ornithologia* was taken with the sole purpose of promoting stability in ornithological nomenclature and it would certainly not have been taken in the form then adopted if it had been made clear to the Commission by ornithologists that certain only of the new generic names published by Brisson in 1760 were in general use and required protection, while others had long been ignored and, if validated, would cause disturbance and confusion rather than contribute to uniformity and stability. Now that the actual position has been brought to light, it seems to me that the most reasonable course would be for the Commission so to use its Plenary Powers as to secure its original intention. In other words, the most appropriate course seems to be to suppress those of the Brisson names which were—as it were, inadvertently—validated when the Ruling of 1911 (in *Opinion* 37) was confirmed by the Commission in 1948 in those cases where the names, so validated, would, it is now seen, merely lead to confusion and objectionable name-changing. The number of new names which will need to be examined for this purpose is large, and in view of the consultations with specialists which will need to be undertaken, the investigation involved will necessarily occupy a considerable time. It is for this reason that the four names dealt with in the present application have been picked out for advance consideration, since, until decisions have been taken in regard to these names, the publication of the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in book form will inevitably be held up.

5. I have consulted Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature appointed in 1950 by the International Ornithological Congress (see pp. 4—5 of the present volume²), and he has sent me the following reply (*in litt.*, dated 10th September 1952): “Many of the generic names published by Brisson in 1760 in his *Ornithologia* are household words and it was therefore of the utmost importance that the Commission should provide a valid basis for these names. The action taken by the Commission in this sense in 1948 was therefore of the greatest value.³ In addition, however, to these names, there are many other new generic names in the *Ornithologia* which have been completely overlooked and which, if now resurrected, would lead to confusion and name-changing, without providing any compensating advantage. This risk will remain until all the new names in the *Ornithologia* have been carefully examined and those names which are in general use finally stabilised by being put on the *Official List*, all the other names concerned being at the same time suppressed. This task, which will be a big piece of work and will involve extensive consultations, will inevitably take a considerable time even in the most favourable circumstances. Pending the completion of this survey, all that the Commission can do is to take such action in individual cases as may be found to be necessary,

² See Footnote 1.

³ For the decision here referred to, see *Direction* 16 (1955, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 1 (C) : 81—88).

for example, to suppress the name *Gavia* Brisson, as proposed in the application regarding the name *Colymbus* Linnaeus submitted by the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature. In the case of the four names (*Bubo*, *Coturnix*, *Egretta* and *Oriolus*) placed on the *Official List* by *Opinion 67* but now found to be invalid, I consider that it is important that the position should be cleared up as quickly as possible by the suppression by the Commission of the four corresponding Brisson names which, though not in current use, technically invalidate these well-known generic names”.

6. In the circumstances and in view of the advice received from Colonel Meinertzhagen, I now recommend that the Commission should validate the existing entries in the *Official List* by suppressing the Brisson names which invalidate the four names in question. It would be convenient if at the same time the Commission were to place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names* one still earlier name consisting of the same word published in 1758 in Nozeman and Vosmaer's *Geslachten der Vogelen* (a Dutch translation of the work by Moehring entitled *Avium Genera* published—before the starting point of zoological nomenclature—in 1752), a work which the Commission has already ruled is unavailable for nomenclatorial purposes (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 566—568)⁴.

7. The specific action which the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is now asked to take is therefore that it should :—

- (1) use its Plenary Powers to suppress the under-mentioned generic names for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy :—
 - (a) *Bubo* Brisson, 1760, *Ornithologia* 1 : 477—486 ;
 - (b) *Coturnix* Brisson, 1760, *ibid.* 1 : 247—261 ;
 - (c) *Egretta* Brisson, 1760, *ibid.* 5 : 431—433 ;
 - (d) *Oriolus* Brisson, 1760, *ibid.* 2 : 320—333 ;
- (2) confirm in their position on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the following names placed thereon by *Opinion 67* :—
 - (a) *Bubo* Duméril, 1806 ;
 - (b) *Coturnix* Bonnaterre, 1790 ;
 - (c) *Egretta* Forster, 1817 ;
 - (d) *Oriolus* Linnaeus, 1766 ;
- (3) place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) the four generic names specified in (1) above, as there proposed to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers ;

⁴ The decision here referred to has since been embodied in *Opinion 241* (1954, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 5 : 13—22).

- (b) *Bubo Rambur*, 1842, Roret's *Suite à Buffon*, Nevroptères : 353 ;
- (c) *Coturnix Nozeman & Vosmaer*, 1758, *Geslacht. Vogel.* (Dutch trans. of Moehring, 1752, *Avium Genera*) 3 : 39 (a work which has already been ruled unavailable for nomenclatorial purposes.)

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt of Mr. Hemming's application, the question of the validation under the Plenary Powers of the names of certain genera of birds which had been placed on the *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 67 but which were now found to be junior homonyms of names published by Brisson in 1760, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 701.

3. Support received from Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen (London) prior to the publication of the present application : Upon the discovery of the problem discussed in the present application, Mr. Hemming wrote to Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, at that time Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature of the International Ornithological Congress, explaining the problem involved and inviting his views on the action which it was desirable should be taken. On 10th September 1952, Colonel Meinertzhagen replied, supporting the action proposed. The text of Colonel Meinertzhagen's letter was quoted by Hemming in paragraph 5 of his application (paragraph 1 above).

4. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 11th September 1952 and was published on 15th October of the same year in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Hemming, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 : 89—92).

5. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 15th October 1952 (a) in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Mr. Hemming's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, it was decided that, having regard to the fact that the group of applications published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* constituted the first move to promote stability in ornithological nomenclature taken by the Commission for many years, special measures should be taken to bring the applications concerned prominently to the attention of ornithologists in all parts of the world. Accordingly Public Notice in relation to the applications in question, both those which involved the possible use of the Plenary Powers and those which did not, was given to fourteen specialists, serial publications or Institutions concerned in ornithology. The serial publications and Institutions to which Public Notice was given under the procedure described above were the following :—

- (1) Alauda, Paris
- (2) Ardea, The Netherlands
- (3) Auk, U.S.A.
- (4) Bombay Natural History Society, India
- (5) Condor, U.S.A.
- (6) Gerfaut, Brussels
- (7) Ibis, England
- (8) Limosa, The Netherlands
- (9) Naturhistoriska Museum, Stockholm (Count Nils Gyldenstolpe)
- (10) L'Oiseau, Paris
- (11) Ornis Fennica, Finland
- (12) Ornithologie, Journal f., Germany
- (13) Ostrich, Natal
- (14) Vidensk. Medd. fra Dansk. naturh. Foren., Denmark

6. General support received for the present and other applications published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the " Bulletin

of Zoological Nomenclature": General support for the action proposed for the promotion of stability in ornithological nomenclature in the applications published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* was received from thirty-six (36) ornithological institutions, groups of ornithologists and individual specialists. The communications so received will be published in due course in connection with the *Opinion* setting out the decision of the Commission in regard to the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus⁵. For the purposes of the present *Direction*, it has been judged sufficient to give the names of the institutions and individuals from whom the communications in question were received. These were the following:—

- (1) Erwin Stresemann (*Zoologisches Museum, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin*)
- (2) G. Diesselhorst (*Leiter der Ornith. Abteilung, Zoologische Sammlung des Bayerischen Staates, München, Germany*)
- (3) Ernst Schüz (*Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Stuttgart, Germany*)
- (4) K. H. Voous (*Curator of Birds, Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*)
- (5) Scottish Ornithological Club, forty-three members of
- (6) Count Nils Gyldenstolpe (*Naturhistoriska Museum, Stockholm*)
- (7) R. Kuhk (*Vogelwarte Radolfzell der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften, Bodensee*)
- (8) J. Steinbacher (*Forschungs-Institut und Natur-Museum Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M.*)
- (9) G. Neithammer (*Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig Reichinstitut, Bonn*)
- (10) G. C. A. Junge (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden*)
- (11) B. Rensch (*Zoologisches Institut der Westfälischen Landes-Universität Münster (Westf.), Germany*)
- (12) Danish Zoologists working on Scientific Ornithology (R. Spärck; H. Volsøe; Finn Salomonsen; Knud Paludan; Holger Poulsen; M. Degerbøl; H. Johansen; F. W. Braestrup; B. Løppenthin; V. Holstein)
- (13) R. Drost (*Vogelwarte Helgoland, Institut für Vogelforschung, Wilhelmshaven*)
- (14) Helmuth O. Wagner (*Direktor, Museum für Natur-, Völker- und Handelskunde, Bremen*)
- (15) Board of the Netherland Ornithological Society

⁵ The decision of the Commission on the name *Colymbus* Linnaeus has since been embodied in *Opinion* 394 (in the press).

- (16) Six British Zoologists (Miss Phyllis Barclay Smith ; R. S. Fitter ; Eric Simms ; Edward Hindle ; Sir Philip Manson Barr ; P. Hollom)
- (17) Jean Delacour (*Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, Cal., U.S.A.*)
- (18) T. A. M. Jack (*London*)
- (19) E. H. Bromley (*Gosport, Hants, England*)
- (20) Ernst Mayr (then of the *American Museum of Natural History, New York*)
- (21) V. S. Edwards (*Newbury, Berks, England*)
- (22) W. M. Congreve (*Salisbury, Wilts, England*)
- (23) F. J. F. Barrington (*London*)
- (24) Ten Parasitologists interested in bird names from the point of view of the names of host species (G. H. E. Hopkins ; F. G. A. M. Smit ; Karl Jordan ; G. O. Evans ; E. Browning ; S. Prudhoe ; Hon. Miriam Rothschild ; N. Tebble ; Theresa Clay ; M. A. R. Ansari (*Institute of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Lahore*))
- (25) S. Allison (*Nottingham, England*)
- (26) Austin L. Rand (*Curator of Birds, Chicago Natural History Museum, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.*)
- (27) S. Dillon Ripley (*Assistant Curator and Assistant Professor, Yale University, Peabody Museum of Natural History, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A.*)
- (28) Ruth G. Barnes (*Chippenham, Wilts, England*)
- (29) Vera Maynard (*Hassocks, Sussex, England*)
- (30) Guy Mountfort (*Secretary, British Ornithologists' Union*)
- (31) E. O. Höhn (*Associate Professor of Physiology, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada*)
- (32) A. W. Boyd (*Northwich, Cheshire, England*)
- (33) John C. S. Ellis (*Huddersfield, England*)
- (34) J. M. Winterbottom (*South African Ornithological Society, Cape Town, Union of South Africa*)
- (35) Theed Pearse (*Comox, Vancouver Is., B.C., Canada*)
- (36) Swedish Ornithological Association, Committee of

7. General objection received from one specialist : One specialist intimated a general objection to the use of the Plenary Powers in any of the cases relating to ornithological nomenclature dealt with in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological*

Nomenclature. The communication so received will be published in connection with the *Opinion* relating to the name *Colymbus Linnaeus*,⁶ together with the communications of general support for the action proposed in the applications in question enumerated in paragraph 6 of the present *Direction*. The specialist from whom the foregoing objection was received was Dr. R. Verheyen (*Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles*).

8. Communications received dealing expressly with the present application : In addition to the communications giving general support for the action proposed in the applications relating to ornithological nomenclature referred to above and to the single letter received objecting to the action so proposed, five letters were received dealing expressly with the present case. The authors of three of these communications supported the present application ; the authors of the remaining two expressed themselves as being opposed to the action there recommended. The communications in question are reproduced in the immediately following paragraphs.

9. Support received from Dr. A. C. V. van Bemmél (Alkmaar, The Netherlands) : On 23rd November 1952, Dr. A. C. V. van Bemmél (*Alkmaar, The Netherlands*) Honorary Assistant, Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, and formerly Curator, Bird Department, Zool. Museum, Bogor, Indonesia, addressed a letter to the Commission intimating his support for the present, and certain other, applications relating to ornithological nomenclature published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. The following is an extract of the relevant portion of his letter :—

Concerning the notes published in Bull. Zool. Nomenclature Vol. 9, pt. 1/3, pp. 1—106, I should like to inform you as follows.

I should like to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature . . . to use its Plenary Powers as is recommended on pp. 91—92 (four Brisson names).

10. Support received from Dr. Josselyn Van Tine and five other United States ornithologists : On 18th March 1953, Dr. Josselyn

⁶ See Footnote 5.

Van Tyne (*Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*) and the five under-mentioned specialists addressed a letter to the Commission in support of the present application :—(a) Robert W. Storer (*Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*) ; (b) Andrew J. Berger (*Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*) ; (c) Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr. (*Northfield, Minnesota, U.S.A.*) ; (d) Frank A. Pitelka (*Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*) ; (e) John Davis (*Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.*). The letter so received was as follows :—

We, the under-signed, wish to express our strong approval of proposal no. 11⁷ (concerning *Bubo, Coturnix*, etc.) published on page 3 of vol. 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. We hope your Commission will take favorable action on it.

11. Support received from Dr. W. B. Yapp (University of Birmingham, Zoology Department, Birmingham, England) : On 10th December 1953, Dr. W. B. Yapp (*University of Birmingham, Zoology Department, Birmingham*) addressed the following letter in support of the present, and three other, applications published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* :—

I should like to support very strongly the following cases referred to in *Nature* 172 : 966 :— . . . (11)⁸ *Bubo*, etc.

12. Objection received from M. Noel Mayaud (Faculté des Sciences de Paris) : Under cover of a letter dated 17th March 1953, M. Noel Mayaud (*Faculté des Sciences de Paris*) communicated to the Commission statements setting out his views on the present and certain other applications published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. The statement so furnished which expressed the view that the present application was unnecessary, was as follows :—

(11)⁸ Les noms de *Bubo, Coturnix, Egretta, Oriolus*, indiqués par Brisson, 1760, sont des noms d'espèces et non de genres. Je suis

⁷ The number here cited for this application is that assigned to it in the Public Notice printed on page 3 of the Part of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* in which this application was published.

⁸ As explained in footnote 2 above, the present case was allotted the number "(11)" in the Public Notice issued in respect of the applications published in Triple Part 1/3 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*.

entièrement d'accord avec C. H. B. Grant à ce sujet (*Bull. B.O.C.*, 1953, p. 25). En conséquence respecter les noms de genres donnés respectivement par Duméril, Bonnaterre, Forster, Linné.

13. Objection received from Captain C. H. B. Grant (British Museum (Natural History), London) : Under cover of a letter dated 2nd April 1953, Captain C. H. B. Grant (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) communicated for the consideration of the Commission a copy of a paper by himself entitled "Brisson's Nomenclature in his *Ornithologie*, 1760" which had then just been published (1953, *Bull. Brit. orn. Cl.* 73 : 25). The paper so communicated was as follows :—

Brisson's Nomenclature in his "Ornithologie", 1760

By CAPTAIN C. H. B. GRANT

This work has been discussed by Mathews in *Nov. Zool.*, 17, p. 492, 1910 ; 18, p. 1, 1911, and *Ibis*, p. 212, 1912, wherein he gives the opinions of Hartert, Sclater and Ogilvie-Grant. I have recently re-examined Brisson's work and find that in Vol. 1 pp. xiv, xv, he states that he recognises 26 Orders, 115 genera and 1500 species or varieties. His orders in Latin are on p. 24, and are numbered I to XXVI. His genera in Latin are on the even numbered pages from 26 to 60, and are given Latin names as well as being numbered, and in the rest of the six volumes the other names in Latin are his species names headed by a French name and a Latin diagnosis of the species.

It should therefore be clear that Brisson's genera are only those which he gives on the even numbered pages from 26 to 60, and that although his species names may appear to be at first sight a combination of genus and species names, they are in fact all species names and all are Latin translations of the French names. The only part of his work that can be said to be correct scientific nomenclature is his genera. The combinations he has given would read : *Columba columba domestica* p. 68, *Columba oenus sive vinago* p. 86, *Columba turtur* p. 92, in Volume 1 ; *Scolopax scolopax* p. 292, *Scolopax gallinago minor* p. 304 in Volume 5, to give a few examples. His species names are not accepted and his genera should never have been accepted as no type species can be designated within the work.

In the *Bull. zool. Nom.* 9, p. 91 and 93, 1952, the genera given as of Brisson, i.e., *Bubo*, 1, p. 477, *Coturnix* 1, p. 243, *Egretta* 5, p. 431,

Oriolus 2, p. 320, and *Gallinago* 5, p. 298, are species names, and Brisson's combination of these would be :—*Asio bubo*, *Perdix coturnix*, *Ardea egretta*, *Turdus oriolus* and *Scolopax gallinago*.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

14. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)77 : On 14th May 1954, a Voting Paper (V.P.(54)77) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the validation of four names placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by *Opinion* 67, as set out in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 7 at the foot of page 91 and the top of page 92 of volume 9 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in paragraph 7 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*].

15. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 14th August 1954.

16. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)77 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)77 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following nineteen (19) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Boschma ; Holthuis ; Lemche ; Dymond ; Hering ;
Vokes ; Esaki ; Riley ; Bonnet ; Bradley (J. C.) ;
Hemming ; do Amaral ; Pearson ; Hankó ; Mertens ;
Sylvester-Bradley ; Cabrera ; Stoll ; Jaczewski ;

(b) *Negative Votes* :

None ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned* :

None.

17. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 16th August 1954, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)77, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 16 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

18. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Direction " : On 12th April 1955, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Direction* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)77.

19. Original References : The following are the original references for names placed or confirmed on *Official Lists* and placed on *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

Bubo Brisson, 1760, *Ornithologia* 1 : 477—486

Bubo Duméril, 1806, *Zool. anal.* : 34

Bubo Rambur, 1842, Roret's *Suite à Buffon*, Nevroptères : 353

Coturnix Nozeman & Vosmaer, 1758, *Geslacht. Vogel.* (Dutch translation of Moehring, 1752, *Avium Genera*) 3 : 39

Coturnix Brisson, 1760, *Ornithologia* 1 : 247—261

Coturnix Bonnaterre, 1790, *Ency. méth.*, Orn. 1 : lxxxvii

Egretta Brisson, 1760, *Ornithologia* 5 : 431—433

Egretta Forster, 1817, *Syn. Cat. brit. Birds* : 59
Oriolus Brisson, 1760, *Ornithologia* 2 : 320—333
Oriolus Linnaeus, 1766, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(1) : 160

20. Family-Group-Name Problems : In view of the fact that in the present *Direction* the Rulings given in relation to generic names are confined to Rulings confirming certain names in their position on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, it has been decided that it will be more convenient to defer the consideration of any family-group-name problems involved in connection with those names until consideration is given to similar problems involved in connection with the other generic names placed on the foregoing *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion 67*.

21. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Direction* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

22. The present *Direction* shall be known as *Direction Twenty-One (21)* of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twelfth day of April, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Five.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING

